

Iowa Voters Judicial Directory

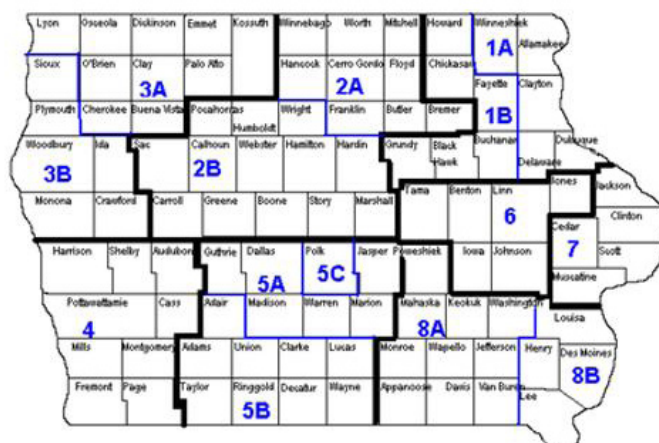
Voter Information:

- Answers to Questions about Retention Elections
- Biographies of Judges on the 2010 Iowa Ballot



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What is a judicial retention election?

In a retention election, voters decide whether a judge should be retained or removed from office. If a judge receives a simple majority of “yes” votes, the judge serves another full term. If a judge receives a simple majority of “no” votes, the judge is removed from office at the end of the year.

Why does Iowa have a retention election?

In 1962, Iowa voters approved a constitutional amendment that replaced the election of judges with merit selection and retention elections. Although no judicial selection system is completely free of politics, a process using merit selection and retention elections:

- Curbs the influence of political parties and special interest groups in the selection of Iowa’s judges.
- Emphasizes the selection of judges based upon their professional qualifications.
- Gives voters the final say about who serves as a judge.
- Is the most effective way to ensure fair and impartial courts.

What makes a good judge?

- **Integrity** - honest, upright and committed to the rule of law
- **Professional Competence** - keen intellect, extensive legal knowledge and strong writing abilities
- **Judicial Temperament** - neutral, decisive, respectful and composed
- **Experience** - strong record of professional excellence
- **Service** - committed to public service and the administration of justice

What about a judge’s personal views on certain issues?

- It is inappropriate for a judge to consider his or her personal views, political pressure or public opinion when deciding cases. Judges must be neutral and follow the rule of law.
- A judge has the First Amendment right to free speech, but if a judge announces a position on an issue, the judge’s impartiality may be called into question. If this occurs, the judge may need to decline presiding over any case that involves that issue.
- Judicial ethics prohibit judges from commenting about cases pending in court to ensure that litigants receive a fair trial.

How are courts accountable?

Our system of government is carefully designed to foster fair and impartial courts while maintaining judicial accountability through a series of checks on judicial power.

If a party in a case believes a judge made an error in a case, the party may appeal to a higher court to review the judge's ruling.

If citizens disagree with a judge's interpretation of a law, they may petition the legislature to amend the law and change the law's effect in the future.

If citizens disagree with a court's interpretation of the constitution, they have the ultimate power to amend the constitution to change its effect in the future.

If a person thinks a judge has behaved unethically, the person may ask the Judicial Qualifications Commission to investigate.

In these ways, courts are accountable to the laws, to the constitution and to the people.

What about an unpopular court decision?

There are many reasons why a voter may want to consider more than the outcome of one case when assessing a judge's performance:

- Over the course of a career, a judge will dispose of thousands of cases. One case alone is not necessarily an accurate barometer of a judicial career.
- Judges must follow the law, and sometimes the law leads to unpopular results. If citizens disagree with a law, they may petition the legislature to change it.
- High-profile cases that catch the media's attention often bear little resemblance to the cases that constitute the bulk of a judge's work. Most court cases do not involve hot-button issues.

What about decisions reversed by a higher court?

Sometimes a higher court reverses the decision of a lower court. Reversal by a higher court does not in itself indicate the quality of a judge's work. For instance, the higher court could be ruling on an issue for the first time or clarifying one of its earlier opinions that served as precedent for the lower court.

Where can I find an attorney survey about judges on the ballot?

Each election year the Iowa State Bar Association surveys its members about judges standing for retention. The results of this opinion survey are available one month prior to the general election at: www.iowabar.org

Supreme Court Justices

Chief Justice Marsha Ternus



Date of Appointment: Chief Justice Ternus was appointed to the Iowa Supreme Court in 1993 by Governor Terry Branstad. The members of the court selected her as chief justice in 2006. She is the first woman to serve as chief justice of Iowa's highest court.

Education: Chief Justice Ternus is a native of Iowa, growing up on a farm in northern Benton County and graduating from Vinton High School in 1969. She received her bachelor's degree with honors and high distinction, Phi Beta Kappa, from the University of Iowa in 1972. She earned her law degree with honors, Order of the Coif, from Drake University Law School in 1977. While at Drake, she served as Editor-in-Chief of the Drake Law Review. She is admitted to practice law in the State of Iowa and the State of Arizona.

Career: Before joining the supreme court, Chief Justice Ternus worked in the private practice of law in the Des Moines law firm of Bradshaw, Fowler, Proctor and Fairgrave, with a primary emphasis on civil litigation and insurance law. While in private practice, she served as president of the Polk County Bar Association, on the Board of Governors of the Iowa State Bar Association, on the Iowa Jury Instructions Committee, and on the

Board of Directors of the Polk County Legal Aid Society. Chief Justice Ternus also served as president of the Board of Counselors of Drake University Law School and on the Drake Law School Endowment Board of Directors. Prior to joining the court, Chief Justice Ternus served several years on the Board of Directors of the Central Iowa Chapter of the American Red Cross and was a participant in the 1983–1984 Greater Des Moines Leadership Institute.

Professional and Community Activities:

In addition to her judicial duties, Chief Justice Ternus has worked on a number of court initiatives and other efforts to improve the administration of justice. She served as the judicial branch representative on the IOWAccess Advisory Council, which was instrumental in encouraging and guiding e-government projects. She also served on the judicial team that oversaw the design, development and construction of the Judicial Branch Building. Chief Justice Ternus was a member of the steering committee of the Iowa Supreme Court Commission on Planning for the 21st Century and served as co-chair of the commission's administration team. She also served on the Multi-State Performance Test Policy Committee of the National Conference of Bar Examiners and chaired the Law School Task Force of the Drake University National Commission II.

As chief justice, she has made the improvement of court oversight of child welfare cases a priority for the Iowa Judicial Branch. To this end, Chief Justice Ternus led an effort to form

and now chairs the State Children's Justice Council, which consists of representatives of the judicial branch, state agencies and private entities involved in the child welfare system. The council works collaboratively to institute reforms and improvements in the Iowa courts' processing of child welfare cases to minimize the time children spend in the foster care system. Chief Justice Ternus also served on the planning committee that organized a national summit on the protection of children in 2009.

Chief Justice Ternus currently serves on the Board of Directors of the Conference of Chief Justices and is a member of the Conference's Courts, Children and Families Committee. In addition, she chairs the Conference's Court Management Committee and its Resolutions Committee. In 2009, United States Supreme Court Chief Justice John Roberts appointed Chief Justice Ternus to the Judicial Conference Committee on Federal-State Jurisdiction, where she is one of only four state supreme court justices serving on the committee. Chief Justice Ternus is also a member of the American Bar Association's Bar Admissions Committee and participates in the C. Edwin Moore Inn of the American Inns of Court.

Chief Justice Ternus is married, and she and her husband have three children. The family is a member of St. Francis of Assisi Parish in West Des Moines.

"Judges are not politicians who can promise to do certain things in exchange for votes."

Chief Justice John Roberts, U.S. Supreme Court

Supreme Court Justices

Michael J. Streit Supreme Court Justice



Date of Appointment: 2001

Education: Justice Streit, Johnston, was born and raised in Sheldon Iowa. He received his bachelor's degree from the University of Iowa in 1972 where he majored in economics with emphasis in health economics. While attending the University of San Diego School of Law, Justice Streit was editor-in-chief of the San Diego Law Journal. He was a member of the law review and wrote articles on securities regulation. He has received the Distinguished Alumni award from the University of San Diego for his service to the profession and the Iowa courts.

Career: After graduating in 1975, Justice Streit was licensed in the Iowa, California, and Nebraska courts. He chose to practice law with the Morr and Shelton law firm in Chariton, Iowa where he served farmers, businessmen, and everyday Iowans. He also served as Assistant Lucas County Attorney and Lucas County Attorney. Justice Streit was appointed as a district court judge by Governor Terry Branstad in 1983. Justice Streit served in all 16 counties of the Fifth Judicial District. He held trials from Newton to Corydon, Des Moines to Bedford. Governor Branstad appointed Justice Streit to the Iowa

Court of Appeals in 1996. In the five years on the Court of Appeals he wrote over 600 decisions. In 2001, Governor Thomas Vilsack appointed Justice Streit to the Iowa Supreme Court. While serving on the court, Justice Streit has been Chair of the Rules committee. He has also served on the Bar Admissions and Administrative committees. He enjoys serving as liaison to the Fifth and Seventh Judicial districts and has served in that capacity to the Eighth Judicial district.

Professional and Community Activities:

Justice Streit has been involved in professional education and public speaking. He has served in a wide variety of capacities with a large number of groups. A partial list includes: Board of Counselors of Drake Law School, Chair of the New Judge Orientation Program, Chair of the New Judge Mentor Program, STOP Violence Against Woman Coordinating Council, Iowa Supreme Court Select Committee on Child Welfare, State Bar Annual Committee, Judicial Evaluation and Performance Committee and the Anglo-American Exchange Program serving in the British courts for two months. Justice Streit also served on the Supreme Court Committee on Public Access to the Courts, Iowa Court Information System Board, Domestic Violence Group, Judges Association Family Law, Criminal Procedure, Gender/Racial Bias Committee, Supreme Court Advisory Committee on Evidentiary Presumptions, Rural Justice Institute in Montpelier, Vermont, Chariton Jaycees, Department of Human Services Forensic Mental Health Unit

Task Force, Criminal Justice Listening Post, Iowa Council for International Understanding, Chair of the Managing Trials Effectively group, Model Court Project, and the Iowa Court Improvement Project Training and Education Task Force.

Justice Streit is the chair of the Supreme Court Education Advisory Committee and was the chair of Judges Association Education Committee. He chaired the planning committee, formulating a five year education plan for all the judges and employees of the judicial branch aimed at improving the services provided every day to Iowans coming to our courts. He began the Iowa Judicial Institute in 1992. The Institute provides in-depth educational opportunities to Iowa judges at the Drake and Iowa Law Schools each year seeking to improve the professionalism and knowledge of judges as they serve Iowa citizens. He has taught Iowa Contract law in the Bar Review school for new lawyers taking the bar exam. He has done this for fifteen years. Justice Streit taught computer use to judges and served for ten years on the Supreme Court Judicial Technology Committee. As a founding member of the Blackstone Inn of Court he participates in presentations of legal and ethical presentations to some of Iowa's best attorneys.

Justice Streit has been involved with the public speaking to numerous groups concerning our courts. These groups or organizations include the Boy Scouts; numerous grade and high school classes; Rotary clubs;

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"The law sometimes demands unpopular outcomes, and a judge who is forced to weigh what is popular rather than focusing solely on what the law demands has lost some independence and impartiality."

Former US Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor

Supreme Court Justices

Justice Streit

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churches; bar associations of District 5B, Storey County, Johnston County, Polk County, Districts 5A, Two, Three, Seven and eight; Iowa Magistrates; Leadership Iowa and Ames; Jaycees; Kiwanis; undergraduate classes at DMACC, Simpson, and Drake; Iowa and Drake Law Schools; Iowa Correction Association; Boys State; Blackstone and C. Edwin Moore Inns of Court; Judicature Society; Iowa Bar Association; Freedom of Speech group; Iowa State Bar Association Know Your Constitution; County Attorney Conference; Capitol Project 2001-2005; International Fellows Program; and elementary, high school and Intercollegiate mock trial competitions; Justice Streit has met and taught groups of lawyers and judges from Bosnia, Moldova, Russia, Ukraine, Germany, China, Turkey, Romania, Hungary, and students from more than 30 countries.

Justice Streit has been a member of the Lucas and Polk County Bar Associations, Iowa State Bar Association, American Bar Association, District 5B Bar Association, Iowa Judges Association, Blackstone Inn of Court, Nebraska Bar Association, California Bar Association and National District Attorneys Association.

Justice Streit is married and enjoys family activities surrounding his son's scouts, soccer, baseball, and golf.

David L. Baker Supreme Court Justice



Date of Appointment: 2008

Education: A life-long Iowan, Justice Baker was born in Muscatine in 1952 and grew up in Waterloo. Justice Baker attended undergraduate and law school at the University of Iowa, receiving his bachelor's degree in 1975 with Honors in Sociology and his law degree in 1979 with high honors, Order of the Coif.

Career: Following graduation from law school, Justice Baker worked in the private practice of law for 25 years where he practiced in various areas including tax and corporate to bankruptcy to litigation. As an attorney, he received an "AV" rating from Martindale-Hubbell indicating his peers rank him at the highest level of professional excellence. While in practice, he was involved in many professional activities. As a member of the Iowa State Bar Association, he was involved in Jury Instructions Committee, Bench/Bar Committee, and the Appellate Practice Committee where he participated in the writing of the Appellate Practice Manual. Justice Baker also served as a temporary bar examiner for 10 years. In the Linn County Bar Association, he served as a member of the Ethics and Grievance

Committee. He was also a member of the Merit Selection Panel involved in the selection of the U.S. Magistrate for the Northern District of Iowa. He was the chairman of Amicus Curiae Committee for the Iowa Trial Lawyers Association. Based upon the recommendations of his peers and judges, he was inducted into the Iowa Academy of Trial Lawyers, whose membership is limited to 250 attorneys who have displayed exceptional skills and the highest integrity. He was also involved in pro bono work through the Volunteer Lawyers Project.

In 2005 Justice Baker was appointed as a district court judge for the Sixth Judicial District. He was appointed to the Court of Appeals in 2006 where he served until his appointment to the Iowa Supreme Court in 2008.

Professional and Community

Activities: Since his appointment to the bench he has been a lecturer for the Iowa Bar Review School and is currently the co-chairman of the Bench/Bar Committee. He is currently a member of Mason Ladd Inn of Court.

Both as a judge and an attorney, Justice Baker has been a frequent lecturer at continuing legal education programs. He has also been a participant at educational activities for law students at both the University of Iowa and Drake law schools. Justice Baker continues to be a member of the Linn County, Iowa State and American Bar Associations.

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"Although it may be appropriate for politicians to consider public opinion and the views of special interest groups when drafting laws and regulations, it is never appropriate for judges to do so when deciding cases. Judges are accountable to the Constitution and the law, and in this way judges are always accountable to the people."

former Chief Justice Louis A. Lavorato, Iowa Supreme Court

Supreme Court Justices

Justice Baker

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Justice Baker is also involved in community non-legal activities. He is currently a member of the Cedar Rapids West Rotary Club where he is a past president and was chairman of the local seven-club Rotary Centennial Project Committee which built a bike trail in Cedar Rapids. He was a past president and treasurer of the Witwer Senior Center. He has been a member of various school committees and a board member of the local United Way. He was president of Elmcrest Country Club. He has been involved in competitive youth swimming. He has been a YMCA volunteer swim coach and he is currently serving as chairman of the board of review for Iowa Swimming Inc., the local swimming committee of USA Swimming.

Justice Baker is married and has two daughters and currently lives in Cedar Rapids.

“Judges have to be careful not to inject their own views into the interpretation of the Constitution and, for that matter, into the interpretation of statutes. That’s not the job that we are given.”

Justice Samuel Alito, U. S. Supreme Court,

Court of Appeals Judges

Gayle Vogel Court of Appeals Judge



and was co-chair of the Iowa Court Improvement Project. Judge Vogel was instrumental in developing rules to expedite appeals in child dependency cases. She was awarded the 2002 Child Advocate Award.

Judge Vogel is married and has three children and one grandchild.

Date of Appointment: 1996

Education: Judge Vogel graduated cum laude from Rockford College in 1971. In 1983 she graduated from Drake University Law School, Order of the Coif.

Career: Prior to her appointment, Judge Vogel worked in the private practice of law in Knoxville. In 1994, she was awarded the Chamber of Commerce Business Woman of the Year Award. She served on the Knoxville Area Community Hospital Board of Directors from 1991-1996, including the position of 2nd Vice President as well as being on the Finance Committee. Judge Vogel also served on the Iowa Tax Review Board from 1995-1996.

Professional and Community

Activities: Judge Vogel is a member of the Iowa State Bar Association and served on the Grievance Commission from 1988 to 1996. As a member of the Iowa Judges Association, she served on the juvenile law committee

Amanda Potterfield Court of Appeals Judge



Date of Appointment: 2008

Education: Judge Potterfield attended Hollins College in Roanoke, Virginia, where she received her bachelor's degree in Literature in 1969. She received her law degree, with distinction, from George Washington University in 1974.

Career: Following her graduation from law school, Judge Potterfield worked as a criminal defense attorney for the Georgia Criminal Justice Council and for Prisoners' Legal Services in New York City. In 1980 and 1981, she directed a tracing program for Cambodian children for the International Rescue Committee and the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees in Thailand. Judge Potterfield returned to New York in 1981, and represented the New York Public Interest Research Group and the Union of Concerned Scientists in litigation regarding a nuclear power plant near New York City. She moved to Iowa in 1982, and worked as a Linn County Public Defender until 1988. For twelve

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"I hope the day will never come when persons will be put upon the bench to carry out political or party principles."

W. Penn Clarke, framer of the Iowa Constitution,
speaking at the Debates of the Iowa Constitutional Convention, 1857

Court of Appeals Judges

Judge Potterfield

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years before her appointment to Sixth Judicial District court judge in 2001, Judge Potterfield was in private practice with Johnston, Potterfield & Nathanson, P.C. in Iowa City and Cedar Rapids.

Professional and Community

Activities: Iowa State Bar Association, National Association of Women Judges

Richard H. Doyle Court of Appeals Judge



Date of Appointment: 2008

Education: Judge Doyle earned his undergraduate degree from Drake University in '71 and his law degree from Drake University Law School in 1976.

Career: Between 1976 and 1977, Judge Doyle served as Assistant Attorney General for the Iowa Department of Justice in the Criminal Appeals Division. He was in private practice in Des Moines from 1977 until his appointment to the bench.

Professional and Community

Activities: Judge Doyle is a member of the Iowa State and Polk County Bar Associations, the Iowa Academy of Trial Lawyers, The Iowa Judges Association and the Lincoln Inne.

Ed Mansfield Court of Appeals Judge



Date of Appointment: 2009

Education: Judge Mansfield earned his undergraduate degree from Harvard in 1978, where he was Phi Beta Kappa. He received his law degree from Yale in 1982. After law school he clerked for the U.S. Court of Appeals, Fifth Circuit.

Career: Judge Mansfield worked in private law practice in Phoenix, Arizona and then Des Moines from 1983 until his appointment to the bench. While in private practice, Judge Mansfield argued over 40 appeals and was named to The Best Lawyers in America.

Professional and Community

Activities: Judge Mansfield has been an adjunct professor of law at Drake University since 1997. He also is a member of the board of directors of Goodwill Industries of Central Iowa. During 2003 and 2004, he served as the Chair of this organization. Judge Mansfield is a member of the Iowa State Bar Association, having served as Chair of the Trade Regulation Section from 2004-2006.

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"So be wary of judicial candidates who take positions on issues, because they cannot deliver on their promises. Answers to issues questionnaires or any campaign promises are not likely to tell you anything useful about how a judge will decide a case, or whether a judge will be able to sit on a case."

former Chief Justice Michael Wolff, Missouri Supreme Court

Court of Appeals Judges

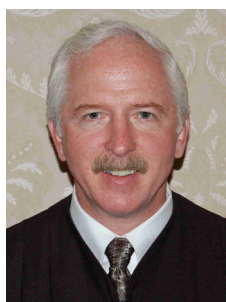
Judge Mansfield

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Judge Mansfield also belongs to the Polk County Bar Association and the Iowa Judges Association. In 2008, Judge Mansfield received the President's Award from America's Blood Centers, the nation's federation of nonprofit blood centers. Judge Mansfield is a member of St. Timothy's Episcopal Church.

He is married to an Iowa native and has three children who attend the Des Moines public schools.

David R. Danilson Court of Appeals Judge



Date of Appointment: 2009

Education: Judge Danilson earned his bachelors's degree in Agricultural Business from Iowa State University in 1976. He graduated from Creighton Law School in 1979.

Career: Judge Danilson was in private practice in Boone since 1980 and during this time served as judicial hospital referee and judicial magistrate. He was appointed to the district associate bench in the Second Judicial District in 1987. Judge Danilson was appointed to the district court bench in 1997 and served two years as the assistant chief district judge of the Second Judicial District.

Professional and Community

Activities: Judge Danilson is a member of the Iowa State Bar Association, Iowa Judges Association, and the American Bar Association. He has served on the faculty of the National Judicial College and as a trustee on the National Court Reporter's Foundation Board of Trustees.

He is married and has five children.

"We don't turn a matter over to a judge because we want his view about what the best idea is, what the best solution is. It is because we want him or her to apply the law."

Chief Justice John Roberts, U.S. Supreme Court,
speaking at his confirmation hearing

District 1A

Michael J. Shubatt District Judge



Date of Appointment: 2008

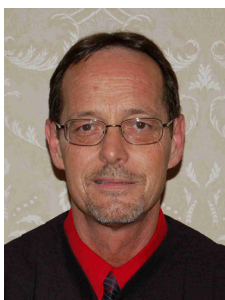
Education: Judge Shubatt attended the University of Iowa where he received his undergraduate degree in 1987, and his law degree, with distinction, in 1990.

Career: Prior to his appointment to the bench, Judge Shubatt was a shareholder in the Dubuque law firm of Fuerste, Carew, Coyle, Juergens & Sudmeier, P.C., and served clients for 18 years as a general practitioner with an emphasis in civil litigation and trial work. He also practiced in the state and federal courts of Iowa and Illinois, as well as the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals.

Professional and Community

Activities: Judge Shubatt is the presiding judge in the Dubuque and Delaware County Drug Court Program and is a member of the Iowa State Bar Association, Dubuque County Bar Association and the Iowa Judges Association.

Richard R. Gleason District Associate Judge



Date of Appointment: 1991

Education: Judge Gleason went to the University of Northern Iowa, where he earned his bachelor's degree in 1974. In 1981, he received his law degree from the University of North Dakota.

Career: Prior to his appointment to the bench, Judge Gleason was a VISTA Volunteer in 1975, worked as a staff paralegal for Jacksonville Legal Aid from 1976 to 1979 and was in private practice in Des Moines from 1981 to 1982. He worked at the Youth Law Center of Des Moines from 1982 to 1985 and was the Managing Attorney in the Dubuque Office of Iowa Legal Aid. Judge Gleason was appointed by the First District Chief Judge to serve six months as a Substitute District Judge.

Professional and Community

Activities: Judge Gleason is a member of the Dubuque County and Iowa State Bar Associations, the Iowa Judges Association and is co-chair of the Iowa Judges Association Education Committee. He was he was admitted to the Eighth Circuit Court of Appeals, serves as an instructor for the New Judge and Magistrate School, and authored the Landlord/Tenant Small Claims Chapter of Bench Manual for Magistrates. He serves on the Iowa Supreme Court Committee on Clerks of Court, is a lecturer for the Iowa State Bar Association "Bridge the Gap" Seminar and an Adjunct Professor of Criminal Justice and Corrections at the University of Dubuque from 1994 to the present.

"The politician is beholden to the people, but the judge is beholden to the law. Qualities of a good judge reside not in constituent service, but in intellect, character and sound judgment. A judge is valued for a capacity to discern, not on politics or promises."

Alfred Carlton, Jr., President, 2002-2003 American Bar Association

District 1B

George L. Stigler District Judge

Date of Appointment: 1978

Education: Judge Stigler earned his bachelor's degree from the University of Northern Iowa and his law degree from the University of Iowa.

Todd A. Geer District Judge

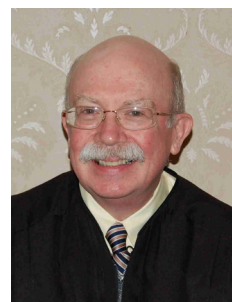
Date of Appointment: 1996

Education: Judge Geer went to Drake University for his undergraduate education and University of Iowa for his law degree.

Career: Judge Geer practiced law with a firm in Grundy Center and served as Assistant Grundy County Attorney before being appointed to the district associate bench in 1995.

Professional and Community Activities: Judge Geer is a member of the Iowa Judges Association and the Iowa State Bar Association. He serves on the Courts and Community Committee.

Stephen C. Clarke District Judge



Date of Appointment: 1984

Education: Judge Clarke earned his bachelor's degree from Conception (MO) Seminary College in 1967. In 1973, he graduated with his law degree from the University of Mississippi.

Career: Judge Clarke began the practice of law as a legal services lawyer in Jackson, Mississippi. After more than three years in that program, he returned to Iowa in 1977, took the Iowa Bar exam and joined his brother in the practice of law in Des Moines. In 1981, Judge Clarke took a job with the Black Hawk County Public Defender Office as the lead attorney for juvenile defense and, in 1984, he was appointed as the first full time juvenile court referee in the First Judicial District. He served in that position, later renamed associate juvenile court judge, for the next thirteen years. In 1997, Judge Clarke was appointed District Court judge, a position in which he currently serves.

Professional and Community Activities: Judge Clarke is a member of the Iowa Judges Association, the

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"The law sometimes demands unpopular outcomes, and a judge who is forced to weigh what is popular rather than focusing solely on what the law demands has lost some independence and impartiality."

Sandra Day O'Connor
Retired United States Supreme Court Justice

District 1B

Judge Clarke

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National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, the American Judicature Society, and the Black Hawk County and Iowa State Bar Associations. He also serves as a member of the State of Iowa's Juvenile Justice Advisory Council and as co-chair of the Training Steering Committee of the Office of Children's Justice.

Judge Clarke was president of the Iowa Judges Association from 2003 to 2004. In 2004 and 2005, Judge Clarke served on the Board of Governors of the Iowa State Bar Association as liaison from the IJA to the ISBA. He has also served as a member of the Governor's Task Force on Youth, Race and Detention, and as co-chair of the Iowa Supreme Court Select Committee to Review State Court Practices in Child Welfare Matters now known as the Office of Children's Justice. In 2001, Judge Clarke was designated as an "Angel in Adoption" by the Congressional Coalition on Adoption for his work on the Select Committee.

Richard D. Stochl District Judge



Date of Appointment: 2007

Education: Judge Stochl graduated summa cum laude from Western Illinois University in 1986. He obtained his Law Degree from the University of Iowa in 1989.

Career: Prior to his appointment to the bench he was a partner in a northeast Iowa firm for more than 18 years.

Professional and Community Activities: Judge Stochl is a member of the Iowa and Minnesota State Bar Associations, the Iowa Judges Association and the Chickasaw County Bar association.

James D. Coil District Associate Judge

Date of Appointment: 1986

Education: Judge Coil received his bachelor's degree from Simpson College in 1973 and his law degree from Creighton University in 1977.

Career: Judge Coil served in the Iowa Air National Guard from 1970 to 1978. After graduating law school, he worked as special prosecutor in Judicial District 1B (1977-1979) and was Assistant Black Hawk County Attorney (1979-1983). He worked in private practice and was Assistant Grundy County Attorney (1983-1984) and worked in private practice and as Assistant Black Hawk County Attorney from 1984 until his appointment to the bench.

Professional and Community

Activities: He is a member of the Black Hawk County and Iowa State Bar Associations, and the Iowa Judges Association. He served on the Iowa Judges Association Board of Directors from 1989 to 1992 and has served on the Iowa Judges Association Legislative Policy Committee since 1994.

"Judges must not test the winds of public opinion before entering a decision. They are bound by their oath of office to render decisions based on the constitution and statutory law. When there is dispute about the meaning or application of a law, judges turn to well-established legal principles to guide their decisions. This is the rule of law."

former Chief Justice Arthur McGiverin, Iowa Supreme Court

District 1B

Allan D. Allbee Associate Juvenile Judge



newly appointed juvenile judges. He received the Award of Merit from the Iowa Judges Association in 2006 and the Guardian of the Law Award from the Iowa Court Improvement Project in 1999. He is the author of the Iowa Juvenile Law Manual.

Date of Appointment: 1990

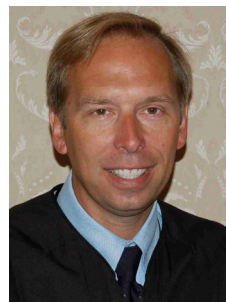
Education: Judge Allbee graduated from the the University of Iowa in 1975 and from the University of Iowa Law School, with honors, in 1977.

Career: Judge Allbee spent 12 years in private practice, served as Assistant Fayette County Attorney, West Union City Attorney, and part-time Juvenile Referee before his appointment as Associate Juvenile Judge.

Professional and Community

Activities: He is a member of the Iowa Judges Association, Iowa State Bar Association, and the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges. He currently chairs the New Juvenile Court Officer Training Committee, serves on the Training Committee of the Iowa Children's Justice Initiative, serves on the faculty of the New Judges Orientation program, serves as Secretary for the Juvenile Court Committee of the Iowa Judges Association, and serves as a mentor for

Daniel L. Block Associate Juvenile Judge



Date of Appointment: 1997

Education: Judge Block earned his undergraduate degree from the University of Iowa in 1985. In 1989, he graduated from Creighton University Law School.

Career: Judge Block began his law career serving as Assistant Black Hawk County Attorney from 1990 to 1996. He was in private practice from 1996 until his appointment to the bench.

Professional Activities: Judge Block is an Adjunct Professor at the University of Northern Iowa, teaching Juvenile and Family Law and chairs the Black Hawk County Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative. He is a member of the Black Hawk County Bar Association, and the Iowa Judges Association. Judge Block is married and has three sons.

"Results-oriented jurisprudence is never justified because it is not our job to try to produce particular results. We are not policy-makers and we shouldn't be implementing any sort of policy agenda or policy preferences that we have."

Justice Samuel Alito, U.S. Supreme Court,
speaking at his confirmation hearing

District 2A

Stephen P. Carroll District Judge



Date of Appointment: 1985

Education: Judge Carroll earned his undergraduate degree from Grinnell College in 1968 and his law degree from Drake University in 1977.

Career: Judge Carroll worked in private practice in Des Moines and Hampton from 1977 to 1985. In addition, he served as the Assistant Franklin County Attorney and as the Franklin County Attorney.

Professional and Community

Activities: Judge Carroll is a member of the Iowa State Bar Association, the Franklin County Bar Association, and the Iowa Judges Association.

Carlynn D. Grupp District Associate Judge

Date of Appointment: 1987

Education: Judge Grupp earned her undergraduate degree from Iowa State University in 1966. In 1978, she received her law degree, with honors, from the University of Iowa.

Career: Judge Grupp taught high school for nine years before returning to law school. Following law school, she worked nine years as an Assistant Cerro Gordo County Attorney and was engaged in private practice.

Professional and Community

Activities: Judge Grupp is a member of the Cerro Gordo County and Iowa State Bar Associations and the Iowa Judges Association. She has worked with and helped establish several community based programs which provide aid to the criminal justice system.

Peter B. Newell District Associate Judge

Date of Appointment: 1995

Education: Judge Newell received his bachelor's degree, with honors, from Western Illinois University in 1984. He attended Drake University Law School and graduated, with honors, in 1987.

Career: Judge Newell was in private practice with Randal, Anfinson and Luce from 1987 to 1988 and spent seven years with the Black Hawk County Attorney's office as assistant county attorney before he was appointed to the bench.

"Pleasing the crowds has never been what this [court] system strives for. Within our own individual abilities, we first aim to do right and by doing right we strive to serve the law-be it our constitution, the statutes enacted by the other two branches of government, or our own case precedent. We strive to serve the law whether we agree with it or not. . . ."

former Chief Justice Blatz, Minnesota Supreme Court

District 2A

Gregg R. Rosenblatt
District Associate Judge



Date of Appointment: 2008

Education: Judge Rosenblatt earned his undergraduate degree from Wartburg College in 1984. In 1987, he received his law degree from the University of Iowa.

Career: Judge Rosenblatt was an associate attorney at a private law firm in Harlan from 1987 to 1989. He was an Assistant Cerro Gordo County Attorney for 19 years prior to his appointment.

Professional and Community Activities: Judge Rosenblatt is a member of the Iowa State Bar Association and the Iowa Judges Association.

“The foundation of a constitutional democracy is impartial courts—courts adjudicating civil and criminal cases free from political and other influences. Consistent standards and principles guide the decisions of impartial courts.”

Chief Justice Thomas Stover, Ohio Supreme Court

District 2B

Thomas Bice District Judge



Date of Appointment: 2008

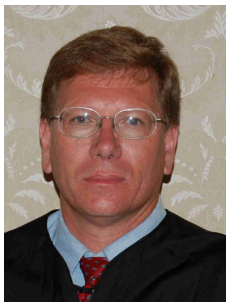
Education: Judge Bice earned his Bachelor's degree from the University of Iowa in 1969. He graduated, Order of the Coif, from Drake University Law School in 1972. He was also Editor in Chief of the Drake Law Review.

Career: Judge Bice was in private practice from 1972 until his appointment to the bench.

Professional and Community

Activities: Judge Bice has worked with the Iowa Board of Law Examiners (Chairman from 2004-2008) and the National Conference of Bar Examiners Committee on the Multi-state Performance Test. He is currently chair of the National Conference of Bar Examiners Committee on Character and Fitness, on the Board of Directors of the National Conference of Bar Examiners, past president of the Webster County Bar Association, and is a member of the Iowa State Bar Association, the Iowa Academy of Trial Lawyers and the American College of Trial Lawyers.

Steven P. Van Marel District Associate Judge



Date of Appointment: 1987

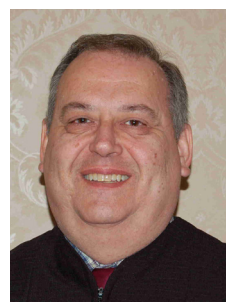
Education: Judge Van Marel earned a degree in community and regional planning, with honors, from Iowa State University in 1980. After graduation, he went to the University of Iowa and received his law degree in 1983.

Career: Judge Van Marel worked as the Assistant Wapello County Attorney and the Assistant Story County Attorney prior to being appointed to the bench.

Professional and Community

Activities: Judge Van Marel is a member of the Iowa Judges Association

Victor G. Lathrop Associate Juvenile Judge



Date of Appointment: 1985

Education: Judge Lathrop received his bachelor's degree from Illinois State University in 1972. He then joined the Iowa Air National Guard and earned his law degree from Drake University in 1975.

Career: Judge Lathrop was the Executive Director of Story County Legal Aid from 1976 to 1977 and worked in private practice in Ames from 1977 to 1985.

Professional and Community

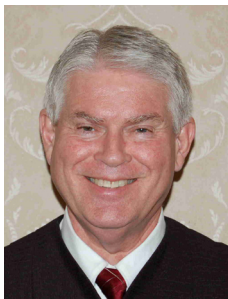
Activities: Judge Lathrop is chair of the Supreme Court Advisory Committee on Iowa Juvenile Rules. He is a member of the Iowa Judges Association and serves on the Juvenile Laws Committee. He is also serves as a new judge mentor.

"I think it's vitally important that [judicial] nominees, to use Justice Ginsburg's words, give 'no hints, no forecasts, no previews.'"

Chief Justice John Roberts, U.S. Supreme Court,
speaking at his confirmation hearing

District 2B

James A. McGlynn
Associate Juvenile Judge



Date of Appointment: 1999

Education: Judge McGlynn earned his undergraduate degree from Drake University in 1972. He then attended Creighton University School of Law, graduating in 1975.

Career: Judge McGlynn worked as an Assistant Kossuth County Attorney and as a part-time magistrate for Kossuth County. He also practiced law in Algona and Webster City before his appointment as Juvenile Judge.

Professional and Community

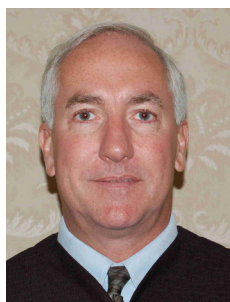
Activities: He is a member of the Iowa State Bar Association, the Iowa Judges Association and the Juvenile Court Committee, and serves as a new judge mentor.

“Judges are not politicians who can promise to do certain things in exchange for votes.”

Chief Justice John Roberts, U.S. Supreme Court

District 3A

David C. Larson District Judge



Date of Appointment: 1998

Education: Judge Larson received his bachelor's degree in Construction Engineering from Iowa State University in 1978 and graduated from Creighton School of Law in 1981.

Career: Judge Larson was in private practice from 1981 to 1998 and worked as an Alternate District Associate Judge from 1983 to 1998.

Professional and Community

Activities: Judge Larson is a member of the Iowa Judges Association, serving on the Judicial Administration and Technology Committee, the Judicial Ethics and Conduct Committee and the Juvenile Court Committee. He is also a member of the Iowa State Bar Association, and the Dickinson County Bar Association. He served on the Digital Audio Recording Technology Committee for the Judicial Council, the Stake Holders Panel for Iowa Children's Justice, and is a Registered Patent Attorney.

Charles Borth District Judge

Date of Appointment: 2009

Education: Judge Borth earned his Bachelor of Arts degree from Mankato State University in 1992 and his law degree from Drake University Law School in 1995.

Career: Judge Borth served 12 years as Assistant Clay County Attorney and worked in private practice in Spencer from 1997 to his appointment to the bench.

Professional and Community

Activities: Judge Borth is a member of the Clay County Bar Association and the Iowa State Bar Association.

Mary L. McCollum Timko Associate Juvenile Judge



Date of Appointment: 1988

Education: Judge McCollum Timko earned her bachelor's degree, with distinction from the University of Iowa in 1979. She received a master's degree, with honors, from the same institution in 1984 and a law degree from the University of Iowa Law School in 1982.

Career: Judge McCollum Timko served as an assistant county attorney for Johnson County from 1982 to 1988 and has served as an adjunct professor at Buena Vista University since 1993.

Professional and Community

Activities: Judge McCollum Timko is a member of the Iowa Judges Association and served on the Iowa Supreme Court Court Improvement Project. She is a member of the Child Advocacy Committee, the Parents and Children Together Committee, and the CASA Advisory Board, serving as director until 2008. She is a judge for Cherokee/Ida Family Treatment

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"The law sometimes demands unpopular outcomes, and a judge who is forced to weigh what is popular rather than focusing solely on what the law demands has lost some independence and impartiality."

Former US Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor

District 3A

Judge McCollum Timko

Continued from previous page

Court, and the founder and judge of the Buena Vista County Family Drug Court. She serves on the Drug Endangered Children Committee, the Native American Advisory Committee for Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Siouxland, the Faith Hope and Charity Board of Directors (until 1995), the Storm Lake Softball Association Board (until 2003) and the “I Will Not Worry” Foundation.

“Although it may be appropriate for politicians to consider public opinion and the views of special interest groups when drafting laws and regulations, it is never appropriate for judges to do so when deciding cases. Judges are accountable to the Constitution and the law, and in this way judges are always accountable to the people.”

former Chief Justice Louis A. Lavorato, Iowa Supreme Court

District 3B

John Ackerman District Judge



1987. He served on the Board of Directors for Siouxland Mental Health for several years up to May of 2010. He has been a CCD instructor for middle and high school students at his church for the majority of the last ten years.

Date of Appointment: 1997

Education: Judge Ackerman graduated in 1979, summa cum laude, from Morningside College, and graduated in 1982 from the University of Iowa College of Law with high distinction, Order of the Coif.

Career: Judge Ackerman was in private practice with the Heidman Law Firm in Sioux City from 1982 until he was appointed to the bench in 1997. His practice focused primarily in civil tort litigation and worker's compensation matters.

Professional and Community

Activities: Judge Ackerman participated in the creation of the Woodbury County Drug Court in 1999 and continues to be involved in that court and serves as the presiding district court judge. He received the 2006 Court Innovation Award by the Iowa Supreme Court for his work on the drug court. Judge Ackerman is a member of the Iowa State and Woodbury County Bar Associations.

Judge Ackerman has been involved in several community organizations over the years. He has been on the Board of Directors of the Siouxland Community Soup Kitchen since its inception in

Jeffrey Neary District Judge



Date of Appointment: 2002

Education: Judge Neary received his bachelor's degree in German from Westmar College, Le Mars, in 1981 and his law degree from the University of South Dakota in 1987.

Career: Judge Neary served as a part-time magistrate for Plymouth County in the mid 1990s and was an assistant federal public defender in the Northern District of Iowa until his appointment to the bench. He also served as an Assistant Woodbury County Attorney, was in private practice with a Sioux City and a Le Mars law firm, and served with the U.S. Army Reserves as a Captain in the Judge Advocate Corps until his honorable discharge in 1999.

Professional and Community

Activities: Judge Neary is a member of the Iowa State Bar Association and a past member of the South Dakota Bar Association. He is currently an adjunct professor at Western Iowa Tech Community College teaching reserve deputies through the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy. Judge Neary is currently the presiding judge in Plymouth County, which is a pilot county for EDMS (Electronic Data

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"Judges have to be careful not to inject their own views into the interpretation of the Constitution and, for that matter, into the interpretation of statutes. That's not the job that we are given."

Justice Samuel Alito, U. S. Supreme Court,

District 3B

Judge Neary

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Managing System). Judge Neary also heads up the Plymouth County Drug Court and works with the members of his local Boy Scout Troop.

Steven Andreasen District Judge



Date of Appointment: 2008

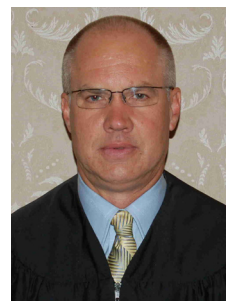
Education: Judge Andreasen received his undergraduate degree from the University of Iowa in 1989 and his law degree, with distinction, from the same institution in 1992.

Career: Judge Andreasen was in private practice in Sioux City from 1992 to 2008 and a Judicial Magistrate for Woodbury County from 2006 until his appointment to the District Court bench.

Professional and Community

Activities: Judge Andreasen is a member of the Iowa Judges Association, the Iowa State Bar Association, and the Woodbury County Bar Association. He currently serves on the Rules of Civil Procedure Advisory Committee and the Self-Represented Litigants Legal Forms Committee. He has been the Woodbury County coordinator of the Iowa Bar Association American Citizenship Award for 18 years.

Brian L. Michaelson Associate Juvenile Judge



Date of Appointment: 1985

Education: Judge Michaelson graduated Summa Cum Laude from Westmar College in 1975 and obtained a juris doctorate from the University of Iowa College of Law in 1978.

Career: Prior to taking the bench, Judge Michaelson was in private practice for seven years with the Dull, Murphy, Dull and Michaelson Law Firm in Le Mars and served as Assistant Plymouth County Attorney from 1978 to 1985.

Professional and Community

Activities: In 1986 Judge Michaelson graduated from the National College of Juvenile Justice. He is a member of the Iowa Judges Association and the National Council of Family and Juvenile Court Judges. He served as President of the Iowa Judges Association from 1995 to 1996. He received the Governor's Award for Certification of Excellence in Foster

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"I hope the day will never come when persons will be put upon the bench to carry out political or party principles."

W. Penn Clarke, framer of the Iowa Constitution,
speaking at the Debates of the Iowa Constitutional Convention, 1857

Judge Michaelson

Continued from previous page

Care and served as a board member on the Iowa Child Advocacy Board. In addition to his other judicial duties, Judge Michaelson presides over the Woodbury County Family Treatment Court. Since becoming a judge he has been a trainer-presenter for foster parents, CASAs, child protective investigators, case managers, service providers, tribal representatives, social workers, guardian ad litem, attorneys and judges on local, state and national juvenile justice issues.

“So be wary of judicial candidates who take positions on issues, because they cannot deliver on their promises. Answers to issues questionnaires or any campaign promises are not likely to tell you anything useful about how a judge will decide a case, or whether a judge will be able to sit on a case.”

former Chief Justice Michael Wolff, Missouri Supreme Court

District 4

Jeffrey L. Larson
Chief Judge



Date of Appointment: 2003

Education: Judge Larson received his undergraduate degree from the University of South Dakota in 1982 and his law degree from the University of Iowa in 1985.

Career: Prior to his appointment, Judge Larson was in private practice in Harlan for 18 years and served as the Shelby County Attorney.

Professional and Community

Activities: Judge Larson is a member of the Iowa Judges Association.

Kathleen A. Kilnoski
District Judge



Date of Appointment: 2008

Education: Judge Kilnoski earned her undergraduate degree in American Studies, with honors, from Grinnell College in 1981, where she was Phi Beta Kappa. After graduating, she went on to earn her law degree from University of Iowa in 1985.

Career: Judge Kilnoski was Assistant City Attorney in Council Bluffs from 1985 to 1996 and served as a District Associate Judge in the Fourth judicial District from 1996 to 2008.

Professional and Community

Activities: Judge Kilnoski is a member of the Supreme Court Committee on the Model Code of Judicial Conduct and the Supreme Court Advisory Committee on Rules of Evidence. She served on the governor's Child Welfare Advisory Committee from January 2008 to April 2010. She is also a member of the Organization of Woman Attorneys and the Iowa Judges Association serving on the Juvenile Judges Committee, the Alternative Dispute Resolution Committee and the Courts and Community Committee.

Richard H. Davidson
District Judge



Date of Appointment: 2009

Education: Judge Davidson attended Drake University where he earned a Bachelors of Arts Degree in 1981 and his law degree, Order of the Barrister, in 1984.

Career: Judge Davidson began his career as a trial attorney for the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission in Washington D.C. In 1986, he joined a Washington D.C. Law Firm and practiced in the area of civil litigation. He returned to his hometown of Clarinda, Iowa, in 1991 and was engaged in a general trial practice until his appointment to the bench. In addition to his private practice, Judge Davidson served as Assistant Page County Attorney 1991 - 2001 and as Page County Attorney from 2001 until his appointment.

Professional and Community

Activities: Judge Davidson is a member of the Page County, Southwest Iowa, and Iowa State Bar Associations. He is also a member of the Iowa Judges Association. Judge Davidson served on the State's Digital Audio Recording Technology Committee.

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"We don't turn a matter over to a judge because we want his view about what the best idea is, what the best solution is. It is because we want him or her to apply the law."

Chief Justice John Roberts, U.S. Supreme Court,
speaking at his confirmation hearing

District 4

Judge Davidson
Continued from previous page

Judge Davidson is married and has three children. The family is involved in numerous civic organizations and are active members in the Presbyterian Church.

Gary K. Anderson
District Associate Judge

Date of Appointment: 1987

Education: Judge Anderson received his undergraduate degree from the University of Iowa and his law degree from Creighton University.

Charles D. Fagan
District Associate Judge

Date of Appointment: 2009

Education: Judge Fagan graduated from the University of Iowa in 1988 and received his law degree from Creighton University in 1995.

Career: Judge Fagan served in the State of Iowa Public Defender’s Office from 1996 to 2009.

Professional and Community Activities: Judge Fagan serves on the Community Involvement Committee, the Supreme Court Advisory Committee on the Rules of Criminal Procedure and the Data Grant Committee. He is a member of the Iowa Judges Association, the Iowa State Bar Association and the Pottawattamie County Bar Association.

“The politician is beholden to the people, but the judge is beholden to the law. Qualities of a good judge reside not in constituent service, but in intellect, character and sound judgment. A judge is valued for a capacity to discern, not on politics or promises.”

Alfred Carlton, Jr., President, 2002-2003 American Bar Association

District 5A

Gregory A. Hulse
District Judge

Date of Appointment: 1997

Education: Judge Hulse received his bachelor's degree from the University of Iowa in 1969. In 1973, he graduated from the Drake University School of Law.

Career: Judge Hulse was in private practice in Adel for 23 years before his appointment to the District Court Bench. He was also employed as an Assistant Dallas County Attorney and as the City Attorney for the City of Van Meter.

Professional and Community

Activities: Judge Hulse is Chairman of the Committee to propose a Mediation Program for Judicial Subdistricts 5A and 5B. He previously served on Judicial Ethics Committee of Iowa Judges Association. He is a member of Iowa State Bar Association and the Dallas County Bar Association.

Paul R. Huscher
District Judge

Date of Appointment: 1997

Education: Judge Huscher went to undergraduate college at Oklahoma State University. After graduating in 1977, he went to Drake University for law school and graduated in 1980.

Career: Judge Huscher was in private practice for sixteen years before his appointment.

Professional and Community

Activities: Judge Huscher is a member of the Iowa State Bar Association, Dallas County Bar Association, and the Iowa Judges Association.

Martha Mertz
District Judge

Date of Appointment: 2002

Education: Judge Mertz received her undergraduate degree from Northeast Missouri State University in 1974 and she graduated, with honors, from Drake University Law School in 1982.

Career:

Professional and Community

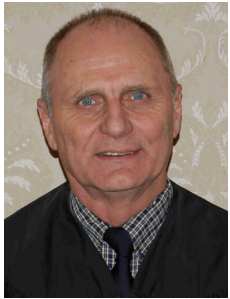
Activities: Judge Mertz is a member of the Iowa State Bar Association, the American Bar Association, and the Iowa Trial Lawyers Association. She has received the ICADV Gold Seal Award in 1994, the Athena Award in 1989, the Rodney L. Hudson Appellate Advocacy Award in 1982, and the Order of Barristers in 1981.

"The law sometimes demands unpopular outcomes, and a judge who is forced to weigh what is popular rather than focusing solely on what the law demands has lost some independence and impartiality."

Sandra Day O'Connor
Retired United States Supreme Court Justice

District 5A

Terry Wilson
District Associate Judge



Date of Appointment: 1995

Education: Judge Wilson earned his bachelor's degree from Iowa State University in 1962 and his law degree from the University of Tennessee in 1969.

Career: Judge Wilson was in private practice for 26 years and served as county attorney from 1976 to 1983.

“Judges must not test the winds of public opinion before entering a decision. They are bound by their oath of office to render decisions based on the constitution and statutory law. When there is dispute about the meaning or application of a law, judges turn to well-established legal principles to guide their decisions. This is the rule of law.”

former Chief Justice Arthur McGiverin, Iowa Supreme Court

District 5B

Gary G. Kimes District Judge



Date of Appointment: 1996

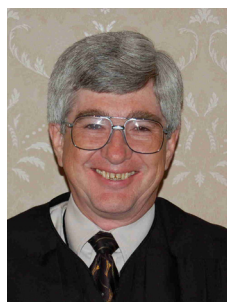
Education: Judge Kimes graduated from Iowa State University in 1967. He earned his law degree from Drake University Law School in 1974.

Career: Judge Kimes was engaged in private practice for 22 years. He served as Clarke County Attorney and is a Vietnam veteran.

Professional and Community

Activities: Judge Kimes is a member of the 5B Bar Association, the Iowa Judges Association and the Iowa State Bar Association. He served as president of the Iowa County Attorneys Association, as a director for the South Western Community College, and on the Iowa State Bar Association Board of Governors.

John D. Lloyd District Judge



Date of Appointment: 2002

Education: Judge Lloyd received his undergraduate degree from Drake University in 1971 and his law degree also from Drake University in 1974.

Career: Judge Lloyd worked in private practice in Osceola until becoming the full time Clarke County Attorney in 2000. He worked in that capacity until his appointment to the bench.

Professional and Community

Activities: Judge Lloyd currently chairs the Supreme Court Advisory Committee on the Rules of Civil Procedure and is a member of the Clarke County Bar Association, the District 5B Bar Association, the Iowa State Bar Association and the American Bar Association. He is an active member of the Osceola United Methodist Church.

Sherman W. Phipps District Judge

Date of Appointment: 2003

Education: Judge Phipps received his undergraduate degree from Graceland University in 1966, his masters degree from the University of Iowa in 1969 and his law degree from Drake University Law School in 1973.

Career: Judge Phipps was engaged in private practice in Des Moines for approximately two years and then moved to Lamoni where he was in private practice for twenty-six years. Before attending law school, Judge Phipps worked for the Iowa Department of Human Services in Union County and as a counselor at the Iowa Training School for Girls in Mitchellville.

Professional and Community

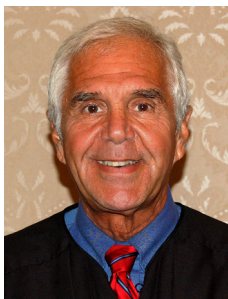
Activities: Judge Phipps is a member of the Decatur County Bar Association, the Iowa State Bar Association, and the Iowa Judges Association.

"Results-oriented jurisprudence is never justified because it is not our job to try to produce particular results. We are not policy-makers and we shouldn't be implementing any sort of policy agenda or policy preferences that we have."

Justice Samuel Alito, U.S. Supreme Court,
speaking at his confirmation hearing

District 5C

Joel D. Novak District Judge



Date of Appointment: 1979

Education: Judge Novak graduated from the University of Iowa in 1962. He earned his law degree, Order of the Coif, from the University of Iowa Law School in 1965.

Career: Between 1965 and 1979, Judge Novak worked in the litigation department of the Belin Law Firm, Des Moines.

Professional and Community

Activities: Judge Novak is a member of the Iowa Bar Association, the Iowa Judges Association and was the 2007 recipient of the Award of Merit from Judges Association. He served on the Judicial Qualifications Commission for one six-year term and is a faculty member on judicial ethics for New Judge Orientation.

Glenn E. Pille District Judge



Date of Appointment: 1985

Education: Judge Pille received his bachelor's degree from Loras College in 1969. In 1972, he graduated from the Drake University School of Law.

Career: Judge Pille has served as District Five Assistant Chief Judge, since 1996. He was a Juvenile Court Referee (1979-1985), worked in private practice in the Law Offices of Critelli & Pille, Des Moines, in a general, trial and appellate practice (1973-1979), and was the prosecutor for the City of Ankeny, (1973-1979). Judge Pille also worked as an instructor at Dubuque Senior High School (1969-1970), and in the criminal law division at Des Moines Area Community College (1978-1979). He taught a Drake University graduate level course on "The Legal System" in 1981, 1982, and 1984; and at the State Juvenile Probation Officers Training School in 1983 and 1984. He is also a member of various faculties presenting Juvenile Justice workshops since 1981

Professional and Community

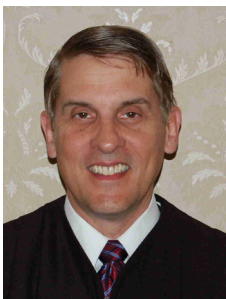
Activities: Judge Pille is a member of the Iowa Judges Association, the Iowa State Bar Association, the Polk County Bar Association, and served on the Board of Directors of the Iowa Judges Association from 1992 to 1996. He is a member of the C. Edwin Moore American Inn of Court, a past member of the Iowa Criminal and Juvenile Justice Advisory Council, and the Joint Iowa Supreme Court/Department of Human Services Juvenile Justice County Base Study Committee. He served on the Board of Directors of the National Conference on Christians and Jews (1994-1997), Iowa Commission on Children, Youth and Families (1992-1998), and the Advisory Committee on Court Reporters, American Institute of Business (1993-1995). Judge Pille was Chairman of the Iowa Supreme Court Advisory Committee on Rules of Juvenile Procedure (1982-1985), served on the Iowa Governor's Task Force on Child Day Care (1982) and has been a speaker at judges conferences, Iowa County Attorneys Association spring conferences, and Court Reporters Association meetings. He is also chairman and/or member of numerous other committees and focus groups.

"Pleasing the crowds has never been what this [court] system strives for. Within our own individual abilities, we first aim to do right and by doing right we strive to serve the law-be it our constitution, the statutes enacted by the other two branches of government, or our own case precedent. We strive to serve the law whether we agree with it or not. . . ."

former Chief Justice Blatz, Minnesota Supreme Court

District 5C

Robert A. Hutchison District Judge



Date of Appointment: 1990

Education: Judge Hutchison earned his bachelor's degree from Harvard University in 1971. He graduated from the University of Iowa in 1974 with his law degree, Order of the Coif.

Career: Judge Hutchison worked in private practice in Polk County from 1974 to 1990.

Professional and Community

Activities: Judge Hutchison is a member of the Polk County Bar Association, the Iowa State Bar Association and the Iowa Judges Association. He is a past member of the Criminal and Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee, the Judicial Technology and Electronic Filing Rules Committee and is the current chairperson of the Business Advisory Committee, overseeing implementation of electronic data management system (EDMS).

Scott D. Rosenberg District Judge



Date of Appointment: 1997

Education: Judge Rosenberg earned his bachelor of Arts degree in History from the University of Iowa in 1976 and his law degree from Drake University in 1979.

Career: Judge Rosenberg has worked for the State Appellate Defender's Office, in private law practice, private business and as Assistant Polk County Attorney. He was appointed District Associate Judge in 1992.

Professional and Community

Activities: Judge Rosenberg is a member of the Iowa State Bar Association, the Polk County Bar Association, the Iowa Judges Association, and is a lecturer for the Iowa Judges Association, the University of Northern Iowa and for Department of Human Services employees on Juvenile Law. He has authored several outlines

for the Iowa Judges Association Education Committee, the Iowa Judges Association Bench-Bar Committee, and the Fifth Judicial District of Iowa. He is the co-author of the Drake Law Review article: *Developing a Consistent Standard for Evaluating a Retaliation Case Under Federal and State Civil Rights Statutes and State Common Law Claims: An Iowa Model for the Nation*, Vol. 53, (2005).

"The foundation of a constitutional democracy is impartial courts—courts adjudicating civil and criminal cases free from political and other influences. Consistent standards and principles guide the decisions of impartial courts."

Chief Justice Thomas Stover, Ohio Supreme Court

District 5C

Karen A. Romano District Judge



Date of Appointment: 2001

Education: Judge Romano earned her bachelors degree, cum laude, from Creighton University in 1983 and earned her law degree, with distinction, from the University of Iowa College of Law in 1986.

Career: Judge Romano was in private practice for one year and Assistant Polk County Attorney for nine years prior to her appointment as district associate judge in 1996.

Professional and Community

Activities: Judge Romano is a member of the American Bar Association, the Iowa State Bar Association, the Iowa Organization of Women Attorneys, the Polk County Bar Association, the Polk County Women Attorneys (Board member 2001-2003), the Iowa Judges Association, and the National Association of Women Judges. She is Chair of the Polk County Courthouse Standing Security Committee (1999-present), a member of the Pro Se Litigant Task Force—a joint Iowa Judges Association and Iowa State Bar Association project—(2003-2005), Supreme Court Court Interpreter Policies Advisory Group and the Ad Hoc Interpreter Advisory Group (2000 – present)

Carla T. Schemmel District Judge



Date of Appointment: 2003

Education: Judge Schemmel attended McKendree College where she received her undergraduate degree in history in 1975. She earned her law degree from Drake University in 1985 and worked on the Drake Law Review.

Career: Judge Schemmel worked in private practice for 17 years focusing primarily on litigation until her appointment.

Professional and Community

Activities: Judge Schemmel is a member of the Polk County Bar Association, the Iowa State Bar Association and the Iowa Judges Association.

Don C. Nickerson District Judge

Date of Appointment: 2003

Education: Judge Nickerson received his undergraduate degrees in Journalism and Sociology from Iowa State University in 1974. He attended Drake University Law School where he earned his law degree in 1977.

Career: Prior to his appointment to the bench, Judge Nickerson worked as Associate General Counsel and Privacy Officer for Wellmark Blue Cross and Blue Shield, Iowa and South Dakota from 2001 to 2003. From 1994 to 2001, he served as United States Attorney, Southern District of Iowa, chief federal prosecutor for southern Iowa where he supervised approximately 70 employees including professional and support staff. He was in private practice from 1980 to 1994 with Babich, Bennett and Nickerson, primarily practicing in personal injury and immigration and customs. From 1978 to 1980, he was Assistant United States Attorney for the Southern District of Iowa. Between 1977 and 1978, he was in private practice with Parrish and Del Gallo.

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"I think it's vitally important that [judicial] nominees, to use Justice Ginsburg's words, give 'no hints, no forecasts, no previews.'"

Chief Justice John Roberts, U.S. Supreme Court,
speaking at his confirmation hearing

District 5C

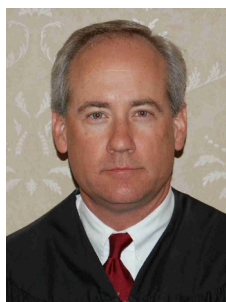
Judge Nickerson

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Professional and Community

Activities: Judge Nickerson is a member of the Iowa National Bar Association, the Polk County Bar Association and the Iowa Judges Association. He was previously a member of the National Black Prosecutors Association, the National Bar Association and the Iowa State Bar Association. He was a Barrister, Blackstone Inn of Court, 1989-1994; a member of the Drake University Law School Board of Counselors, 1989- 1992; member of the Equality in the Courts Task Force for the Iowa Supreme Court, 1991-1993; member of the Commission on the Planning for the 21st Century for the Iowa Supreme Court 1994-1996; on the Board of Directors for United Way of Central Iowa, 1986-1988; chair of the Public Policy Committee of the United Way of Central Iowa, 1986-1988; member of the Iowa Commission on the Aging, 1983- 1985; and chair of the Board of Directors of Urban Dreams.

Robert B. Hanson District Judge



Date of Appointment: 2003

Education: Judge Hanson earned his bachelor's degree from Stanford University in 1978 and his law degree from the University of Iowa in 1981.

Career: Judge Hanson was law clerk to Justice K. David Harris of the Iowa Supreme Court from 1981 to 1982 and worked in private practice with the Des Moines law firm of Hanson, Bjork & Russell, L.L.P., from 1982 to 2003.

Professional and Community

Activities: Judge Hanson is a member of the American Bar Association, the Iowa State Bar Association, the Polk County Bar Association, the Iowa Judges Association, the C. Edwin Moore American Inn of Court, and the American Judicature Society.

Cynthia M. Moisan District Associate Judge



Date of Appointment: 1995

Education: Judge Moisan earned her bachelor's degree from Western Illinois University in 1979. In 1983 she received her law degree from Drake University.

Career: Judge Moisan spent 12 years in private practice prior to appointment as a district associate judge.

Professional and Community

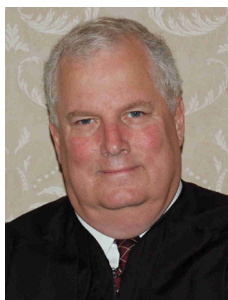
Activities: Judge Moisan is a member of the Polk County Bar Association and is on the committee that established the first Drug Court in Polk County. She was the first judge assigned to the Drug Court.

"Judges are not politicians who can promise to do certain things in exchange for votes."

Chief Justice John Roberts, U.S. Supreme Court

District 5C

James D. Birkenholz District Associate Judge



Date of Appointment: 1998

Education: Judge Birkenholz attended Drake University, where he received his bachelor's degree in 1971 and his law degree in 1974.

Career: Judge Birkenholz was in private practice 23 years and was admitted to the U.S. Patent Office Bar in 1974.

Professional and Community Activities: Judge Birkenholz is a member of the Iowa Judges Association and has served on various committees.

Odell McGhee II District Associate Judge



Date of Appointment: 2002

Education: Judge McGhee received his bachelor's degree from Cornell College in 1974 and his law degree from Drake University Law School in 1977.

Career: From 1977 to 1979, Judge McGhee worked as the Program Planner for the Iowa Commission of the Aging. In 1979, he became an Administrative Hearing Officer with the Iowa Department of Environmental Quality where he was periodically assigned to hear contested cases from the Iowa Civil Rights Commission, the Iowa Department of Agriculture and the Iowa Merit Employment Commission. He served as Assistant Polk County Attorney from 1982 until his appointment to the bench.

While an Assistant Polk County Attorney, he worked part time as a certified mediator with the Iowa Public Employment Relations Board and the Polk County Mediation Center. He was also an adjunct professor of Law teaching business law, torts, criminal law, and constitutional law at Drake and the Des Moines Area Community College.

Professional and Community

Activities: Judge McGhee was elected to the national board of the National Bar Association and was president of the Iowa National Bar Association for over ten years. He was elected group chair of the National Prosecutor Association and was very active in committee work. He has served on several special committees (Grievance, Bench Bar, Jury Instructions, Minority Issues, and Criminal Law) of the Iowa State Bar Association and on the Executive Board of the Polk County Bar Association. He served four terms on the Iowa Supreme Courts Commission on Continuing Legal Education, and was a temporary examiner with the Iowa Board of Law Examiners. Judge McGhee was also on the Executive Board of the Young Lawyers Division of the Iowa State Bar Association.

Judge McGhee was selected or appointed to several community organizations including the Des Moines Waterworks (chairman and member), the Des Moines Housing Authority (chairman and member), the Hillside Development Commission (member), the Des Moines Playhouse (member), The Corinthian Garden Senior Citizen and Handicapped Apartment Complex (chairman, vice chair, and member), The Corinthian Baptist Church Trustee Board (chair, vice-chair and member), the Salvation Army Advisory Council (member and chair of the basketball program), the Metro Arts Board (member), the United Way of Iowa Board (member), the Drake University

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"The law sometimes demands unpopular outcomes, and a judge who is forced to weigh what is popular rather than focusing solely on what the law demands has lost some independence and impartiality."

Former US Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor

District 5C

Judge McGhee

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Board of Counselor for the Law School (member), the National Poetry Society (vice-chair), the Langston Hughes Theatrical Troupe (director and member), the I'll Make Me a World Committee (member), The Morris Scholarship Fund (chair, vice chair, and member), Minister of Outreach, Corinthian Baptist Church, the NAACP Legal Redress Committee (chair and member), the Council for International Living, the Community Scholarship Program, and the Iowa Task Force on Men. He has further actively supported the Boys Scouts and other charitable organizations.

Constance Cohen Associate Juvenile Judge



Date of Appointment: 1994

Education: Judge Cohen attended Drake University. She earned her undergraduate degree in 1972, her masters degree in 1977 and her law degree in 1986.

Career: From 1987 to 1993, Judge Cohen worked as Assistant Dallas County Attorney. She was in private practice from 1987 to 1993 and served as the Prosecuting Attorneys Training Coordinator for the Iowa Attorney General and Executive Director of the Iowa County Attorneys Association from 1993 to 1994. Judge Cohen was also on the Drake University Law School faculty.

Professional and Community Activities: Judge Cohen was awarded the Iowa Judge's Association Award of Merit in 2003, the Iowa Judicial Branch Court Innovation Award in 2004, The Drake University School of Education Outstanding Alumni Award in 2007, and the Angels in Adoption Congressional Award in 2007.

She is an Iowa Children's Justice Initiative Advisory Committee Member, co-chair of the Iowa Children's Justice Initiative Judicial Training Subcommittee, She serves on the Iowa State Bar Association Juvenile Court Committee, Polk County Bar Association Juvenile and Family Law Committee, the Iowa Judges Association Juvenile Court Committee (former chair for 8 years), the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges Permanency Planning for Children Department Advisory Committee (former co-chair), Victim's Act Model Court Lead Judge since 2000, and Zero To Three Court Teams for Maltreated Infants and Toddlers in the Child Welfare System Lead Judge since 2005.

Judge Cohen is a member of the Polk County Bar Association, Polk County Women Attorneys, Iowa Organization of Women Attorneys, Iowa State Bar Association, Iowa Judges Association, National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges. She is also a former Adjunct Professor at Drake University Law School and Des Moines Area Community College and is a frequent lecturer at local, state, and national trainings.

"Although it may be appropriate for politicians to consider public opinion and the views of special interest groups when drafting laws and regulations, it is never appropriate for judges to do so when deciding cases. Judges are accountable to the Constitution and the law, and in this way judges are always accountable to the people."

former Chief Justice Louis A. Lavarato, Iowa Supreme Court

District 5C

Ruth B. Klotz
Associate Probate Judge



Date of Appointment: 1978

Education: Judge Klotz attended Drake University where she earned her undergraduate degree in 1954 and her law degree, with Honors, Order of the Coif, in 1955.

Career: Judge Klotz worked for two years as special counsel for the Iowa Department of Revenue, 12 years in private practice and nine years as a trust officer.

Professional and Community

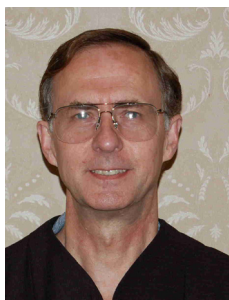
Activities: Judge Klotz is a member of the Iowa State Bar Association, the Polk County Bar Association, the American Bar Association and the Iowa Judges Association.

“Judges have to be careful not to inject their own views into the interpretation of the Constitution and, for that matter, into the interpretation of statutes. That’s not the job that we are given.”

Justice Samuel Alito, U. S. Supreme Court,
speaking at his confirmation hearing

District 6

Denver D. Dillard District Judge



Date of Appointment: 2002

Education: Judge Dillard received his undergraduate degree from the University of South Dakota in 1968. In 1971, he received his law degree from the University of Iowa.

Career: Judge Dillard was law clerk to Iowa Supreme Court Justice Clay LeGrand in 1972. He worked in the private practice of law from 1972 to 1982, was a part-time Assistant Linn County Attorney from 1975 to 1982 and served as Linn County Attorney from 1983 to 2002.

Professional and Community

Activities: Judge Dillard is a member of the Iowa Judges Association, serving on the Criminal Law and Technology Committees.

Robert E. Sosalla District Judge



Date of Appointment: 2003

Education: Judge Sosalla earned his undergraduate degree from Wayne State College in Nebraska in 1969. In 1972, he received his law degree from the University of Iowa Law School.

Career: Judge Sosalla was in private practice in Cedar Rapids from 1972 until his appointment as district associate judge in 1982.

Professional and Community

Activities: Judge Sosalla is a member of the Iowa State Bar Association and the Iowa Judges Association (Secretary-Treasurer 1997-1998, President-Elect 1998-1999, President 1999-2000). He is the co-recipient of Court Innovation Award, and a former lecturer at the National Judicial College, Reno, Nevada (criminal law and court administration).

Sean McPartland District Judge

Date of Appointment: 2008

Education: Judge McPartland received his undergraduate degree, with distinction, from The University of Iowa in 1981 and was inducted into Phi Beta Kappa, and Kappa Tau Alpha honor societies. He received his law degree in 1984, with distinction, from the University of Iowa.

Career: Judge McPartland worked in general civil practice with private law firms in Kansas City, Missouri, from 1984 to 1989, and in Cedar Rapids, from 1989 to 2008.

Professional and Community

Activities: Judge McPartland is a member of the Linn County Bar Association, the Iowa State and American Bar Associations and the Iowa Judges Association. He is also a member of the Dean Mason Ladd Inn of Court (Master/Emeritus) and serves on the Steering Committee of the Task Force for Civil Justice Reform.

"I hope the day will never come when persons will be put upon the bench to carry out political or party principles."

W. Penn Clarke, framer of the Iowa Constitution,
speaking at the Debates of the Iowa Constitutional Convention, 1857

District 6

Ian Thornhill District Judge



Professional and Community Activities: Judge Thornhill is a member of the Iowa Judges Association, the Iowa Bar Association, and the Linn County Bar Association. Prior to his appointment to the bench, Judge Thornhill served on the Linn County Bar Association Board of Governors.

Date of Appointment: 2009

Education: Judge Thornhill received his undergraduate degree from the University of Iowa in 1989. In 1991 he received his master's degree from the University of Iowa and in 1998 he received his law degree, with high distinction, from the University of Iowa.

Career: Judge Thornhill began his professional legal career as an attorney on active duty in the U.S. Navy Judge Advocate General's Corps. After leaving active duty, Judge Thornhill worked as an Assistant United States Attorney in the Northern District of Iowa, prosecuting complex fraud and child exploitation cases. Judge Thornhill served as an Assistant United States Attorney in Cedar Rapids until his appointment to the bench. Judge Thornhill remains a member of the Navy Reserve Judge Advocate General's Corps and currently holds the rank of Commander. From November 2007 to May 2008, Judge Thornhill was recalled to active duty and deployed to Baghdad, Iraq, in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Stephen C. Gerard II District Associate Judge



Date of Appointment: 1995

Education: Judge Gerard received his bachelor's degree from Drake University in 1972. He went to law school at the University of Iowa and graduated, with distinction, in 1975.

Career: Judge Gerard served with the United States Air Force as Judge Advocate General's Department Defense Counsel from 1976 to 1978. He was Chief Circuit Trial Counsel from 1978 to 1980 and served as a Johnson County Judicial Magistrate from 1983 to 1995. He worked in the private practice of law from 1980 to 1995.

Professional and Community Activities: Judge Gerard is a member of the Iowa Judges Association and is an Iowa City Kickers Soccer Coach.

"So be wary of judicial candidates who take positions on issues, because they cannot deliver on their promises. Answers to issues questionnaires or any campaign promises are not likely to tell you anything useful about how a judge will decide a case, or whether a judge will be able to sit on a case."

former Chief Justice Michael Wolff, Missouri Supreme Court

District 6

Susan F. Flaherty
Associate Juvenile Judge



Date of Appointment: 1995

Education: Judge Flaherty earned her bachelor's degree from Loras College in 1980. She then went to the University of Iowa where she received her law degree, with distinction, in 1983.

Career: Judge Flaherty served as Assistant Linn County Attorney from 1984 to 1995.

"We don't turn a matter over to a judge because we want his view about what the best idea is, what the best solution is. It is because we want him or her to apply the law."

Chief Justice John Roberts, U.S. Supreme Court,
speaking at his confirmation hearing

District 7

Mark J. Smith District Judge



Date of Appointment: 1997

Education: Judge Smith earned his bachelor's degree from St. Ambrose University in 1972 and his law degree from St. Louis University in 1975.

Career: Judge Smith was a law clerk for the judges of the Seventh Judicial District from 1976 to 1977. He served as a prosecutor in the Scott County Attorney's office from 1977 to 1982 and was in private practice with emphasis on trials from 1982 to 1997.

Professional and Community

Activities: Judge Smith was President of the Scott County Bar Association in 1995. He was on the Board of Directors for the Maternal Health Center from 1990 to 1997, the Board of Directors of the Center for Alcohol and Drug Services from 2001 to present. He is a member of the Iowa Judges Association is on the Board of Directors for the Lawyers Assistance Commission (2002 to present) and currently serves on the Iowa Supreme Court Steering Committee on Self-Represented Litigation.

Paul Macek District Judge



Date of Appointment: 2008

Education: Judge Macek earned his bachelor's degree from the University of Iowa in 1970 and graduated Cum Laude from the University of Iowa Law School in 1973.

Career: Judge Macek worked in general practice and was assistant city attorney prior to his appointment to the bench.

Professional and Community

Activities: Judge Macek is a member of the Iowa State Bar Association, the Iowa Judges Association and the Scott County Bar Association. He was Scott County Bar President in 2000.

Phillip Tabor District Associate Judge

Date of Appointment: 2008

Education: Judge Tabor earned his undergraduate degree from the University of Iowa in 1981. In 1984 he received his law degree from the University of Wyoming.

Career: Between 1984 and 1989, Judge Tabor served as an assistant county attorney, assistant public defender and assistant attorney general in Wyoming. Between 1990 and 2000 and 2006 to 2008, he served as Jackson County Attorney. Between 2001 and 2006 he worked in private practice at Baty and Tabor attorneys.

Professional and Community

Activities: Judge Tabor is a member of the Jackson and Clinton County Bar Associations, the Iowa State Bar Association, the Iowa Judges Association and the Clinton/Jackson DCAT Board.

"The politician is beholden to the people, but the judge is beholden to the law. Qualities of a good judge reside not in constituent service, but in intellect, character and sound judgment. A judge is valued for a capacity to discern, not on politics or promises."

Alfred Carlton, Jr., President, 2002-2003 American Bar Association

District 7

Thomas H. Preacher
District Associate Judge



Date of Appointment: 2008

Education: Judge Preacher earned his undergraduate degree, Magna Cum Laude, Phi Beta Kappa, from Dartmouth College in 1972. In 1980 he received his law degree from the University of Iowa College of Law.

Career: Judge Preacher worked in private practice from 1980 to 2008.

Professional and Community

Activities: Judge Preacher is a member of the Scott County Bar Association and the Iowa State Bar Association.

“The law sometimes demands unpopular outcomes, and a judge who is forced to weigh what is popular rather than focusing solely on what the law demands has lost some independence and impartiality.”

Sandra Day O'Connor
Retired United States Supreme Court Justice

District 8A

Annette J. Scieszinski District Judge



Date of Appointment: 1996

Education: Judge Scieszinski received her bachelor's degree from Iowa Wesleyan College in 1977. In 1980 she graduated with her law degree from the University of Iowa where she was a Note and Comment Editor for the Iowa Law Review.

Career: Judge Scieszinski was in private practice in Albia for 15 years and was elected to two terms (eight years) as Monroe County Attorney. She was also appointed to the State Tax Review Board.

Professional and Community

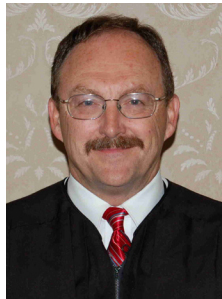
Activities: Judge Scieszinski is on the faculty of the Judicial Branch's New Judge School in the area of ethics and professionalism and is an Iowa delegate to the National Conference of State Trial Judges where she has been elected to the Executive Committee. She co-chair the American Bar Association's Judicial Division Ethics and Professionalism Committee and serves on the Board of Directors of

the Iowa State Bar Association Public Service Project. She is past-president of the Iowa Judges Association and chairs the Association's Judicial Ethics and Conduct Committee. Judge Scieszinski is a Past President and a Fellow of the Iowa State Bar Foundation and serves as Public Outreach Committee Chair for the Eighth Judicial District. She has also served as the State Bench-Bar Committee Co-Chair. Judge Scieszinski is a frequent speaker on legal ethics for judges and lawyers.

In the community, Judge Scieszinski is a 4-H Leader, an aid at St. Mary's Church Religious Education Program, a member of the Indian Hills Community College Criminal Justice Advisory Board and a member of the Iowa Wesleyan College Alumni Board.

She is married and has four children.

Michael R. Mullins District Judge



Date of Appointment: 2002

Education: Judge Mullins received his bachelor's degree from Southwest Baptist University, Bolivar, Missouri in 1974 and his M.S.W. from the University of Iowa in 1976. He was Editor-in-Chief of Drake Law Review and graduated with honors, Order of Coif, from Drake University Law School in 1982.

Career: Judge Mullins worked in private practice in Washington, Iowa, for 19 years (1982-2001).

Professional and Community

Activities: Judge Mullins is Chair of Judicial Technology Committee and a member of the Business Advisory Committee for the Electronic Document Management System (EDMS) for the Iowa Judicial Branch. He is also a faculty member for new judge orientation and for trial management and a frequent presenter for continuing legal education on the topic of sentencing issues. Judge Mullins developed and periodically updates the Iowa Criminal Statutes Summary Chart used by judges and lawyers

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"Judges must not test the winds of public opinion before entering a decision. They are bound by their oath of office to render decisions based on the constitution and statutory law. When there is dispute about the meaning or application of a law, judges turn to well-established legal principles to guide their decisions. This is the rule of law."

former Chief Justice Arthur McGiverin, Iowa Supreme Court

District 8A

Judge Mullins

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throughout Iowa. He is a member of the Jury Instructions Committee of the Iowa State Bar Association and is the only judge member of the interim legislative Criminal Code Reorganization Committee. He is also a recent participant in the national Cross Governmental Sentencing and Corrections Policy Forum and a member of the Washington County Bar Association, the Iowa State Bar Association and the American Bar Association.

Joel D. Yates District Judge



Date of Appointment: 2007

Education: Judge Yates received his bachelor's degree from Mt. Mercy College in Cedar Rapids in 1986 and his law degree from the Drake University School of Law in 1994.

Career: Judge Yates worked in private practice from 1995-2007 in Oskaloosa.

Professional and Community

Activities: Judge Yates is a member of Keokuk County Bar Association and Iowa State Bar Association.

Kirk A. Daily District Associate Judge



Date of Appointment: 1998

Education: Judge Daily received his bachelor's degree from University of Iowa in 1981. In 1984, he graduated, with distinction, from the University of Iowa College of Law.

Career: Judge Daily was in private practice with the firm Webber, Gaumer, Emanuel & Daily from 1984 to 1998 and served as a Judicial Magistrate in Wapello County from 1984 to 1985.

Professional and Community

Activities: Judge Daily is the presiding judge of the District 8A adult drug court. He is a member of the Iowa Judges Association, the Iowa State Bar Association and the Wapello County Bar Association. He is the past chair of the Iowa Court Information System Steering Committee, and a past member of the Iowa Supreme Court Public Outreach Steering Committee.

"Results-oriented jurisprudence is never justified because it is not our job to try to produce particular results. We are not policy-makers and we shouldn't be implementing any sort of policy agenda or policy preferences that we have."

Justice Samuel Alito, U.S. Supreme Court,
speaking at his confirmation hearing

District 8A

Randy DeGeest District Associate Judge



Date of Appointment: 2009

Education: Judge DeGeest graduated Summa Cum Laude, Phi Beta Kappa, from Drake University with a BA in Political Science in 1974 and received his law degree, Law Review, Order of the Coif, from Drake in 1978.

Career: Judge DeGeest was in private practice for 32 years before his appointment as District Associate Judge. He was a Judicial Magistrate from 1979 to 1986; City Attorney for Oskaloosa from 1994 until his appointment; and twice served as interim City Manager for Oskaloosa. He served as guardian ad litem for hundreds of children in juvenile court and was an experienced mediator.

Professional and Community

Activities: Judge DeGeest is a member of the Mahaska County Bar Association and is a member of the Eighth Judicial District Mandatory Mediation Committee. He is Past President of the Iowa Association of School Board Attorneys and the Mediation Services of Eastern Iowa.

William S. Owens Associate Juvenile Judge



Date of Appointment: 1999

Education: Judge Owens received his bachelor's degree from the University of Kansas in 1981 and his law degree from Drake University Law School in 1984.

Career: Judge Owens worked in private practice in Albia for 14 years. He also served as Assistant Monroe County Attorney from 1984 to 1989, Monroe County Attorney from 1990 to 1998 and Albia City Attorney from 1986 to 1998.

Professional and Community

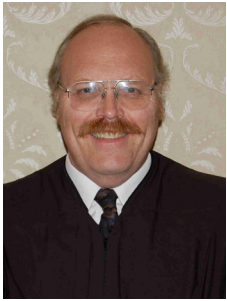
Activities: Judge Owens is a member, Iowa Judges Association, co-chair of the Supreme Court Advisory Committee on Children's Justice, and chair of the Iowa Judges Association Juvenile Court Committee. He is the lead judge in the Wapello County Family Treatment Court and the 2008 recipient of the Iowa Judicial Branch Court Innovation Award. Judge Owens is also the 2007 recipient of the Outstanding Partner in Recovery Award from the Harold Hughes Hall Association.

"Pleasing the crowds has never been what this [court] system strives for. Within our own individual abilities, we first aim to do right and by doing right we strive to serve the law-be it our constitution, the statutes enacted by the other two branches of government, or our own case precedent. We strive to serve the law whether we agree with it or not. . . ."

former Chief Justice Blatz, Minnesota Supreme Court

District 8B

Gary Noneman District Associate Judge



Date of Appointment: 1987

Education: Judge Noneman received his bachelor's degree, with distinction, from Iowa State University in 1977. He was the 1977 Graduating Scholar of Iowa State University College of Sciences and Humanities (the highest scholastic record in that college, now known as the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences). He was also Phi Kappa Phi (all university honorary), Pi Sigma Alpha (national political science honorary) and received the Senior Scholastic Award of Iowa State University Alumni Association. Judge Noneman received his law degree, with high distinction, Order of the Coif., from the University of Iowa in 1980. He earned the American Jurisprudence Awards in Criminal Justice and Constitutional Law and the Buckmaster Scholarship.

Career: Judge Noneman worked in the private practice of law in Albia from 1980 to 1982 and in Keokuk from 1982 to 1987. He served as Assistant Lee County Public Defender from 1982 to 1987.

Professional and Community

Activities: Judge Noneman is a member of the Iowa Judges Association where he was Chairman of Judicial Ethics Committee. He has frequently served over the past 30 years as a seminar presenter and instructor at continuing education programs for the Iowa Judges Association and the Iowa Public Defender's Association as well as other groups on the topics of judicial ethics, criminal law, juvenile justice, and small claims courts. He also frequently presents programs to the public, civic organizations, and school classes on the Iowa Court System and criminal and juvenile justice topics. He is a member of the Iowa State Bar Association, the American Bar Association, and the Lee County Bar Association. Judge Noneman received the 1990 United States Department of Justice Crime Victims Service Award.

"The foundation of a constitutional democracy is impartial courts—courts adjudicating civil and criminal cases free from political and other influences. Consistent standards and principles guide the decisions of impartial courts."

Chief Justice Thomas Stover, Ohio Supreme Court